



Looking forward to an exciting 2021 season!

See You Soon

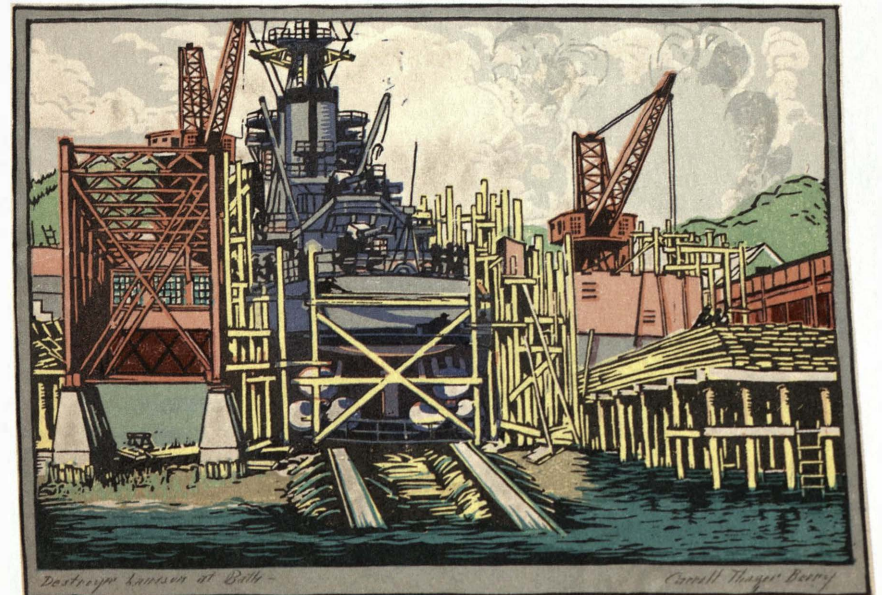


by Christopher Timm
Chief Curator and Director
of External Affairs

One of the most famous lines in literature follows a challenging voyage at sea. In Virgil's epic poem *Aeneid*, the protagonist Aeneas and his fleet find themselves washed ashore on a foreign land. Reminding the exhausted crew of all the trials they encountered—sea monsters, storms, reefs, and shipwrecks—he notes with cheery optimism, “maybe it will be a comfort, one day, to think back on these hardships.”

After moments of trial it sometimes is too easy to swiftly turn the page and not reflect on the bright lights that shone at the greatest darkness. At the museum, the staff's resilience, passion, and creativity have kept us on course through the squall. They have cared for our grounds and historic buildings; checked in on our friends and members; provided innovative, in-person learning opportunities for students in our community; prepared and installed engaging new exhibits; developed new ways to connect virtually with our audiences; and diligently worked to keep our visitors safe. It has been remarkable and inspirational.

Now, with hopeful optimism, we look forward to the museum being a joyous gathering space again—a place for families enjoying a vacation after a long winter in isolation (with two toddlers, I can relate); a place for



Destroyer Lamson at Bath, Carroll Thayer Berry, 1936, 78.054.4a, Gift of William Conrad.

our volunteers and members to reconnect and share in our mission; a place for our students to learn through hands-on engagement with our incredible collection. In other words, a place for our community to once again come together.

Fortunately, there will be a lot of new things to explore for your next visit. Our campus has never been more beautiful, with the First Impressions project now firmly linking the museum with the Kennebec landscape and ecology. Several new exhibits are now open, including *Sustaining Maine's Waters: Understanding the Changing Gulf of Maine*, *Sidney Chase's Eye*, and *Snow Squall: Last*

Continued on page 2

Current Exhibits

A Sailor's Treasure: Sea Chests & Curiosities

On view through June 14, 2021

Sponsored by:



Sidney Chase's Eye

On view through September 5, 2021

Sustaining Maine's Waters: Understanding the Changing Gulf of Maine

On view through September 5, 2021

Upcoming Exhibits

Broadside: The Power of Print in the Maritime World

On view May 29, 2021 – January 30, 2022

Sponsored by: Paul and Kathy Anderson





Maine Maritime Museum celebrates Maine's vibrant maritime culture.

Rhumb Line

A line on the earth's surface which intersects all meridians and parallels of latitude at the same angle. A line of constant course is a rhumb line.

See You Soon

Continued from page 1

of the *American Clippers*. And this year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the museum's stewardship of the Percy & Small Shipyard, which will feature an interactive experience that shares with our visitors the story of its preservation, and how they themselves can play a role.

We are particularly excited for you to experience our summer exhibit, which opens May 28. *Broadside: The Power of Print in the Maritime World* explores how mass-produced illustrations shaped maritime culture. This visually rich exhibit examines how prints advertised goods and services, how they promoted ideas or (mis) information, and how they transported viewers to

distant ports. One of the highlights is an interactive demonstration of an 18th century zograscope, a steampunk-like device far ahead of its time. This system of lenses and mirrors turned prints of foreign ports into immersive illusions—essentially early virtual reality. For all the interest in “virtual tourism” this last year, it is, in fact, a centuries-long phenomenon.

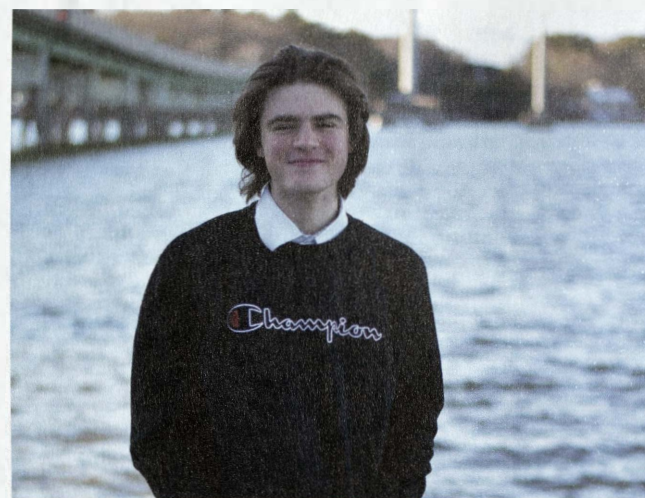
We look forward to the return of the museum's summer soundscape—children pulling the tugboat horn, the echoes of visitors in Sewall Hall, and the voices of our tour guides in the shipyard and galleries. And above all, we look forward to seeing you soon.

Congratulations Nola and Conor!



Nola Vallade, a Morse High School 10th grader, was awarded the third annual Nathan R. Lipfert Maritime History Award for her excellent essay, “Indigenous Fishing in Maritime Maine.” The Nathan R. Lipfert Maritime History Prize was created in honor of MMM Curator Emeritus Nathan R. Lipfert whose passion for maritime history served as a steward for the development of the museum's collection and archives.

Conor Wolff, a graduating senior from Yarmouth High School, will join the education staff this summer as our inaugural Geiger Museum Learning Intern. As part of this generously funded paid internship, Conor will work closely with education staff this summer to develop new family and youth programs.



The Rhumb Line is Back!

As a loyal reader of *The Rhumb Line*, you no doubt noticed its absence since early 2020. Like so many other museum projects, we chose to put *The Rhumb Line* on a brief hiatus as we navigated the uncertainty of last year. But, good news – it's back! We hope you enjoy this spring/summer issue,

which includes a wrap-up of everything that happened at the museum over the last year – and a complete listing of all of our summer events and cruises so you can start planning your next visit. We can't wait to see you! Look for the next issue to arrive in your mailbox in late fall.



On December 15 staff gathered (via Zoom) for the annual toast commemorating the launch of the schooner *Wyoming* in 1909.



The 2020 holiday season featured an outdoor, maritime-themed lighting display and drive-by visits with Santa! It was great to see so many museum supporters popping in to shop in the store and check out the lobster trap tree.



The Education team created a fun video series featuring Captain Kennebec and his sidekick Skipper the Mouse. View all the videos on our YouTube channel!



In celebration of Valentine's Day we offered two-for-one admission to the museum. Museum staff including Renee Stachmus and Teresa Gandler helped spread the love with a fun selfie wall.

Merrymeeting Undergoes Repower

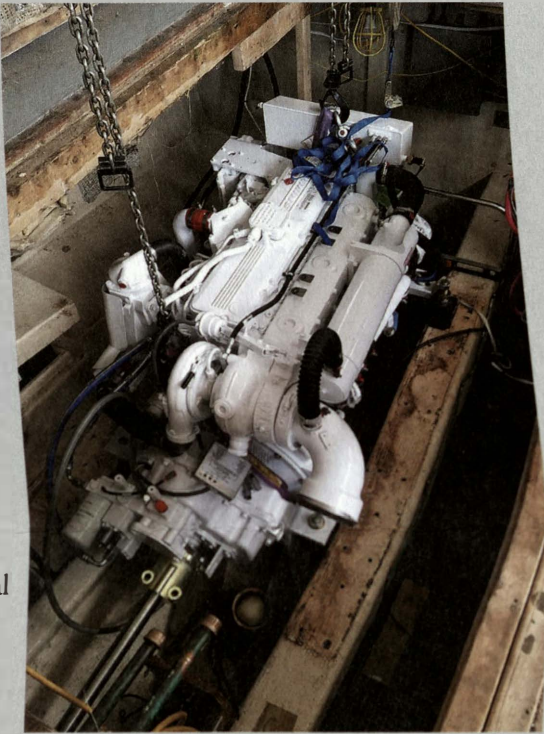
 **by Jason Morin**
Director of Programs
Chief of Staff

In 2016 Maine Maritime Museum took a giant leap forward with its summer cruise program by purchasing a 56-foot vessel named *Pied Piper* from Chebeague Transportation Co. The museum renamed the vessel *Merrymeeting* in honor of Merrymeeting Bay, a rare and unique confluence of six rivers just north of Bath.

Since 2016, *Merrymeeting* has carried more than 52,000 museum visitors and served as a floating educational platform sharing the historical and environmental stories of the Kennebec River and Merrymeeting Bay to school children and summer visitors alike. Recognizing the value of providing on-the-water experiences for our guests, the museum continues to invest in ensuring the longevity of *Merrymeeting* and our ability to offer these rich experiences.

Through the 2020 season, *Merrymeeting* was powered with the original twin Detroit 892 engines that were installed in 1991 prior to the existence of modern emissions standards — the time has come to replace the original engines and bring the vessel up to today's standards. Last year the museum applied for and received funding support from several sources including Maine Clean Marine Engines Program and The Merrymeeting Bay Trust to re-power *Merrymeeting* with new tier III engines that meet today's stringent emissions standards.

Over the winter Royal River Boatyard in Yarmouth has been busy removing the old engines and beginning the conversion to a more efficient Cummins QSL9 model that will carry the *Merrymeeting* forward on its education mission. We recognize the importance of doing our part to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment for future generations and reducing the carbon footprint of *Merrymeeting* is one step the Maine Maritime Museum is taking to help build a more sustainable operation.



The Museum Celebrates the Completion of a 5-Acre Campus Renovation



In March 2019, Maine Maritime Museum broke ground on a transformative renovation of the south campus. Dubbed "First Impressions," the monumental project encompassed a complete redevelopment of the front entrance and south side of the museum's campus with the goals of enhancing the visitor experience, creating an ecologically friendly and welcoming landscape, and addressing a lack of handicapped accessibility. The beautiful new space offers a public area for the community to enjoy free of charge.



An aerial view of the main parking area taken in April 2019. Crooker Construction raised the grade of the parking lot to street level.



Rolls of sod are unrolled on what will become the David & Glenda Emery Kennebec River Great Lawn, a beautiful space for gatherings.



A new sign is installed at the main entrance to the museum.

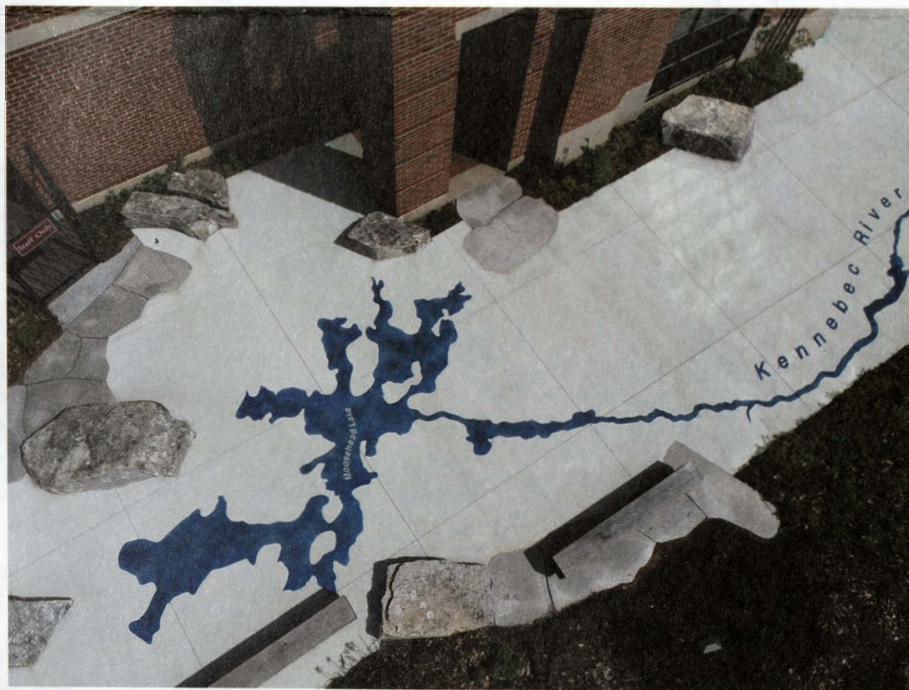


The Gray Family Blueberry Ledge provides a lovely view of the Percy & Small Shipyard, and young visitors love stopping for a snack!





The Peter & Mabel Gerquest Wetlands Gardens Footbridge provides a lovely walk to the front entrance.



The Anderson Plaza features an inlay of the Kennebec River from Moosehead Lake to the Atlantic.

Thank you to the donors who made this incredible project possible:

Paul and Kathy Anderson

Charles and Elizabeth Barker
Bruce and Rebecca Bickford
Terry and Sally Gray
The Konkel Family
Charles and Gerry Orem

Geoffrey and Lindsay Alexander
Crooker Construction LLC
Susan and Jackson Parker
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Cora J. Tarbox, Jeffrey H. Tarbox
Elena D. Vandervoort
Ruth and Rupert White
Alan and Mary Wilson
Sally A. Wood
Ruth and Robert Zollinger

And many other generous supporters.



Gerry Orem and her daughter Sally Schaffer enjoy the views from the Skip & Gerry Orem Kennebec Riverwalk.

In Memory of Dr. Charles E. Burden



by **Rebecca Roche,**
Director of Development

I can picture the exam rooms of my pediatrician, Dr. Charles Burden: a spinning mobile of sailing ships hanging over the exam tables, the Douglas Alvord *Maine Schooner* print on the wall. It was obvious to even this young kid that Dr. Burden had a passion for Maine's maritime heritage.

When I later came to work at Maine Maritime Museum, I realized the depth of that passion. Charlie was constantly on the hunt for treasures to add to the museum's collection, and served as a tireless advocate for the organization which he helped to found. When he died on December 26, 2020, Charlie had donated more artifacts to the museum's collection than anyone else, a stunning accomplishment.



Charlie built – a legacy that will outlive us all.

For more information, please visit MaineMaritimeMuseum.org/Donate/Burden-Fund/ or contact Director of Development Rebecca Roche at 207-443-1316 ext. 327 or roche@maritimeme.org.

In honor of his unequalled dedication, the museum has established the Charles E. Burden Collections Stewardship Fund, where all gifts given in his memory will go. The fund supports the acquisition, preservation, and exhibition of the incredible collection

Honor/Memorial Gifts 2/6/2020 – 3/10/2021

In Honor of Geoff Alexander
Jill Carroll

In Memory of Carol Cusimano Bernier
Robert Bernier

In Honor of the Pennell ship captains and builders
Ronald and Carol Beyna

In Memory of Charles E. Burden, M.D.

Patricia Bailer
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Carl and Lucy Stinson
Ten Pound Island Book Company
Elena D. Vandervoort
Bud Warren
Jennifer G. Yahr

In Honor of USS Forrest Sherman DD-931 Foundation, Inc.
William J. and Mary McGurk

In Honor of Amy Lent
Walter and Elizabeth Cantrell

In Honor of Jesse and Nellie May Lewis
Keith and Katherine Lewis

In Memory of Elaine W. MacLennan
Mark and Nancy Neuhaus

In Honor of Rick Marco
John Allen and Joyce Krajian

In Memory of David Marentette
Darcy Marentette

In Honor of Francis K. Moon
Richard and Risa Moon

In Memory of Brain H. Phillips
David Brown

In Memory of John Ross
William and Suzanne Bushnell
Jim and Kathie Cole
David and Patricia Crump
Ray and Diane Hender
Beth and Doug Henson
Bruce and Joan Knight
Amy and William Lent
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Richard and Barbara Mercier
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Royce and Terry Randlett
Rebecca A. Roche
Donald Ross
Peggy Schick and Jeffrey Pinnette
Robin Ross Schoen
Peter and Carolyn Stackpole
Ray and Mary Swain
Ellen and Christopher Whiting
Nancy A. Wilkes

In Memory of Kurt Wagemann
Andrea Bressler
William J. and Mary McGurk

In Memory of Fred Kahl
Arthur and Carol Dresser
Rick Mack

In Memory of Tom Wood and In Honor of Sally Wood
Elise Von Koschembahr

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The Reny Charitable Foundation

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Staysail (\$7,500)
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Thomaston Place Auction Galleries, Inc.
Thornton Oaks Retirement Community
Westlawn Institute of Marine Technology

New Business Partners are listed in RED.

Visit MaineMaritimeMuseum.org for a full list of Business Partners.



Featured Business Partner

Hammond Lumber Company



Hammond Lumber Company was founded in 1953 when Skip Hammond borrowed \$50 from his wife, Verna. They bought a sawmill, hired two employees and started a lumber business in Belgrade, Maine.

Today, Hammond Lumber Company is a fourth-generation, family-owned lumber and building materials retailer with over 800 employees and 21 locations throughout the state. Hammond Lumber Company is Maine's third largest family-owned business with three generations currently active.

Hammond Lumber Company is one of the largest independent building materials retailers in the Northeast with a full line of building materials; millwork; kitchen, bath and flooring; and home planning design centers. The company is also a quality manufacturer of eastern white pine, sawing more than 8 million board feet annually.

Last year, Hammond Lumber Company was named 2020 ProSales Dealer of Year, a national award that honors outstanding achievements in construction supply



operations, as well as meritorious service to the dealer's community and to the lumber and building material industry. Only one construction supply dealer is chosen per year out of roughly 7,000 nationwide. Hammond Lumber Company was chosen in 2020 for the success of balancing acquisitions, customer happiness and employee satisfaction.

Learn more at www.hammondlumber.com

Welcome New Members 1/31/2020 – 3/4/2021

Erik Anderson
Bethany Atkins and Tim Forrester
Henry and Alice Atkins
Donald and Judith Auten
Susan Babb and Nancy Kurtz
Sally Barter
Melanie Bayes and David Packard
Kathleen Binekey
Cate Blackford
Demetri Blanas and Carolyn Bancroft
Sarah Brake and Daniel Saxby
Michael Brandimarte and
Anna Steffeney
John S. Brewer
Lydia and Foy Brown
Ross and Barbara Burgess
Lori and Marc Burkhardt
Breanna Caires and Timothy Mercier
Naomi Chalk and Madelyn Mahoney
Steven Clark
Benjamin Coffin
Stephen Cohen
Michael and Susannah Conathan
Eva and David Conwell
Alex Cornwall and Guerin Morissette
George and Susan Craig
Kimberly Cullen
Lauren and Will Cunningham
Matthew Dallett and Michele Corbeil
Nirmala and Abhijeet Dalvi
Marc Deglinnocenti
Peter Degnan
Tim and Karli DeHart
Crystal DeLong

Josephine H. Detmer
Linda Docherty and John Scott Staples
Kevin and Heather Dropps
Amy and Rob Dudley
Anne Dunham and Michael Daney
Gary Ezovski and Shannon Walsh
Allan and Linda Fairfield
Douglas Feick
John Fischer and Susan Wegner
Mark Fish
Patricia Foster
James and Heather Gale
Matt and Leslie Gallant
Dale Gardner
Harvey and Pam Geiger
Amelia and Doug Grant
Tracey Hall
Chris and Amanda Hannah
Melissa and Leif Hockstad
Neil and Martha Hulbert
Gordon Hunt
James and Mary Hutzler
Fred Immermann and Ann Herriott
John and Arlene Ingram
Jake Jacobs
Eric Johannessen
Beau Johnson and Emily Flynn
Douglas W. Johnson
James and Louise Johnson
Lynn and Paul Kilchenstein
Sharon Kimball
Steve and Anne Kornacki
Brock and Denise Kwiatowsky
Valerie Lagueux and Richard Irving

Gillian Lane and Christopher Cail
Alyssa Lebel and Edward Kaye
Steve Ludlum and Mary Sullivan
Helen Lyons and Matthew Caton
Angela MacWhinnie
Elizabeth Marks
Gregg and Caroline Marston
Dean and Virginia Marvin
Philip Mason
Wallace McFarlane
Peggy McKinnon and Jim Anderson
Trip and Paula McLaughlin
Donald and Diana Miskill
Slade Moore and Claire Enterline
Eliza Morrison and Jake Styczynski
Ben, Deb and Claire Morse
Naomi Lydia Nelson
Willa Oddleifson
Wayne Olson
Stuart Omdal
Elizabeth Palmer
Ruby Parker
Michael Patz
Dee Post
William and Barbara Potter
Nicholas Puopolo and Kayla Boucher
Franklin and Laurie Reed
Jason and Nancy Riggs
Phelps and Mike Riley
Thomas and Carol Riley
Luis and Hilary Rodriguez
David Rothmund
Joe and Shannon Russo
Susan Sato

Keely Sawyer and Yan Sleight
Deborah Sciascia and Jay Matthes
Peter and Karen Sisa
Evan and Sara Smith
Steve and Beth Sommers
Nate Spear
Claudia and Michael Spies
Ann and Roger Spinney
Renee Stachmus
Richard and Sally Steele
Daryl Sterling and Elizabeth
Stone-Sterling
James Steuernagle
Nick Stoneman
Susan Stover
Elaine Strub-Shank and Gary Shank
Andre and Allyce Sullivan
Mark and Dominique Sutherland
Barbara Swenson
Peter and Anne Taylor
Peter Tenney
Debra and John Thibodeau
Clint Thomsen
Bill and Jessica Tranter
L. Roger Walker
Elizabeth Ware
Frederick and Robin Webber
Catherine and William Webbert
Chris and Tiffany Wilcoxson
Christal Wilson and Stephen Bellantone
Mary Baker Wilson
Timothy and Sharon Woodman
Pamela and Edward Yonkers
Bruce ZuWalick

Upcoming Events

Special Events

Community Day

Saturday, May 15, 11 am-2 pm

FREE admission; \$10 cruises

Help us kick-off the summer season! We'll welcome our historic schooner *Mary E* home to the dock and raise the flags on *Wyoming* with a cannon salute at noon. Cruises will be running at 11, 12:30, and 2 pm, for just \$10 per person, plus tours, demonstrations, and more.

Book Release Party: *Two Centuries of Maine Shipbuilding*

Thursday, August 12, 6-7:30 pm

FREE, preregistration is required

Join us to celebrate the release of *Two Centuries of Maine Shipbuilding* by Curator Emeritus Nathan Lipfert, co-published by Maine Maritime Museum and Down East Books. Nathan will give a talk on the book, and will sign copies (available in the Museum Store), followed by a reception.

Pints on the Pier

Saturday, September 11, 4-7:30 pm

Members \$25; nonmembers \$30; at-the-door \$35; designated driver \$10



It's back! Bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us in the historic Percy & Small Shipyard to sample some of Maine's best beers, ciders, and kombucha! Grab some grub from the on-site food trucks and take in the late-summer sunset along the Kennebec River. Plus, cornhole, live music, and more.

Kids & Family Programs

STEAMbox Family Workshop: Printing Press Workshop

June 6, 1:30-2:30 pm

Members (adult) \$6; members (12 and under) \$10; nonmembers (adult) \$7; nonmembers (12 and under) \$12

Join Bath Printing Company as they teach us the many different ways to make prints, from etchings to engravings, to woodblocks. Everyone will have a chance to press their own print in an antique press.



Kennebec Explorers Day Camp

SOLD OUT

June 28-July 2; July 12-16; July 19-24; July 26-30;

August 2-6; August 9-13; August 16-20

Monday through Friday, 9 am to 4 pm

Members \$255; nonmembers \$265; early drop-off (8 am)/late pick-up (5:30 pm) available for \$25

This summer Maine Maritime Museum will offer seven sessions of our five-day summer camp for kids ages 6-12. *This program is made possible thanks to support from the Merrymeeting Bay Trust.*

Sponsored by: **FIRST Federal savings**

Mariners Adventure Camp

SOLD OUT

August 10-14, 9 am to 4:30 pm

Members \$275; nonmembers \$325; early drop-off (8 am)/late pick-up (5:30 pm) available for \$25

Give your child the experience of a lifetime aboard the schooner *Mary E*! Campers ages 11-14 will join the ship's crew in this five-day, immersive program. *This program is made possible thanks to support from the Twombly Family Fund.*

Crosscurrents: Youth Learning & Leadership Program

July 12-July 30, 9 am to 2:30 pm

Tuition \$1,000, before/after care additional fee, scholarships available

Crosscurrents is a three-week enrichment day program for rising 7th and 8th graders with a curiosity for creative thinking. This hands-on experience integrates the arts, maritime history, science, and traditional skills. Program experiences include sailing, blacksmithing, creative writing, exploring the museum collection, and more.

Children's Author Reading:

The Canoe Maker

October 14, 2-3 pm

FREE with admission

Children of all ages are invited to listen in as Donald Soctomah, Passamaquoddy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and children's book author, read his latest picture book, *The Canoe Maker*.

Artist Workshops

Touchstones by the Sea:

A Writing Workshop

Sunday, July 11, 2-4 pm

Members \$20; nonmembers \$28

Author Irene M. Drago will detail her creative writing process and reveal how she finds inspiration from Maine's maritime history. You will learn tips on how to weave fact and fiction into the written word.

Woodblock Printing Demonstrations

Sunday, August 1, 2-4 pm

Wednesday, September 22, 6-7:30 pm

Members \$16; nonmembers \$20

Local artists Charles Norris (8/1) and Siri Beckman (9/22) will demonstrate their approaches to creating woodblock prints with traditional tools and materials, and will show the process of preparing blocks for carving, demonstrate carving, inking, and pressing techniques. Participants will pull their own keepsake prints.

Lectures

*Generously sponsored by: **Bath Savings**

Community in Print: History of Printing in Bath

Thursday, June 17, 6-7 pm

*FREE, preregistration is required**

Tom and Ash Kahrl, owners of Bath Printing Company, trace Bath history through prints and share the 75-year history of how Bath Printing has served the community.



How Will Maine Fishing Families Weather the Storm

Thursday, July 7, 6-7 pm

Members \$7; nonmembers \$10

Join Maine author Susan Conley, author of the new, bestselling novel *Landslide*, and Monique Coombs, Director of Community Programs at the Maine Coast Fisherman's Association, for a talk about Maine's commercial fishery.



Reflecting on Maine's Maritime Heritage: Photos and Prints

Thursday, July 29, 6-7 pm

*FREE, preregistration is required**

Charles Norris, a local artist and printmaker, will walk us through his many visual inspirations when recording his own impressions of the Maine coast and its vessels.

Perspectives on Carroll Thayer Berry

Thursday, August 5, 6-7 pm

*FREE, preregistration is required**

Join Penobscot Marine Museum's Richard Saltonstall, Jr. Curator of Maritime History, Cipperly Good, as she shares interesting perspectives on prolific Maine printmaker Carroll Thayer Berry.

Marine Debris: Effects on Seabird Island Habitats

Thursday, August 26, 6-7 pm

*FREE, preregistration is required**

Susan Schubel of Maine Audubon Society's Puffin Project discusses the effects of marine debris on seabird island habitats and efforts to reduce the rate of accumulation through at-sea removal of derelict fishing gear.

Thinking About Climate Change: History and Policy

Sunday, September 12, 2-5 pm

*FREE, preregistration is required**

Led by John Zittel, Former Navy scientist and consultant, this workshop will foster discussion on how to recognize the problem, identify national and global action, and empower participants to learn how to take local action such as reducing emissions, capturing carbon dioxide, and navigating market and policy options.

Mapping the Maine Coast at Mid-Century Wednesday, September 15, 6-7 pm

*FREE, preregistration is required**

In this richly illustrated lecture, Libby Bischof, Executive Director of the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education and Professor of History at the University of Southern Maine, explores the role of 20th century women mapmakers in portraying the Maine coast.

Preserving Passamaquoddy Traditions

Friday, October 15, 6-7 pm

*FREE, preregistration is required**

Join Donald Soctomah, author, Passamaquoddy tribal historian, and storyteller, as he introduces ancestral birch bark traditions preserved in traditional canoe building and ongoing efforts in tribal stewardship of the land and waters.

Boatshop Workshops

Building an Adirondack Chair

July 17, 10 am-3:30 pm

Members \$185; nonmembers \$230



Join us in the historic Percy & Small Shipyard at the museum for our second annual outdoor Adirondack chair class! Learn to build your own Adirondack chair using durable cedar. Bring a lunch and spend the day building, then end the day enjoying the breeze off the Kennebec while you kick back in your new chair. No woodworking experience is necessary, just a willingness to work hard and a love of comfortable chairs.

Building a Fireside Stool

October 13 & 14, 5-8 pm

Members \$90; nonmembers \$113

This solid three-legged pine stool has no fasteners and is held together only with tight joinery. It is perfect for sitting by the fire, working in the home shop, or as a perch for your cat. No woodworking experience is necessary to build this beautiful and functional work of art – more than 200 have been built by our 5th to 8th-grade boatbuilding students.

Shaker Box Making

December 1 & 2, 5-8 pm

Members \$90; nonmembers \$113

A perennial favorite of first-time woodworkers! Over two evenings in the Boatshop you'll build a set of three elegant nesting oval boxes using boatbuilding techniques such as clinch nailing and steam bending. No experience is required; this popular class is a fantastic introduction to woodworking. Boxes are made from cherry and cedar, and all materials are provided.

Cruise Season is Coming!

Get out on the water in 2021! Board the cruise boat *Merrymeeting* for an up-close look at the Midcoast's iconic lighthouses, or sail aboard the schooner *Mary E* down the river where it was launched in 1906.

2021 Merrymeeting Cruises

Summer cruise season runs May 15 through October 3. All tickets includes two-day admission.

Mini Cruise for Mini Mariners (30 minutes)

Saturday, 10 am (leaving from Bath City Dock)

Adults \$10; children \$5

Generously sponsored by:



Shipyards & Lighthouses Cruise (1 hour)

Seven days a week, 12 pm and 2 pm

Members \$31; nonmembers \$38;

6-12 years \$21; under 6 \$6

Midcoast Lights and Rivers (3 hours)

Monday-Thursday, 3:30 pm

Members \$39; nonmembers \$48;

6-12 years \$30; under 6 \$6

Lighthouse Lovers Cruise (4 hours)

Saturday, 3:30 pm

Members \$43; nonmembers \$53;

6-12 years \$35; under 6 \$6

Six Rivers of Merrymeeting Bay Cruise (3 hours)

Sunday, 3:30 pm

Members \$39; nonmembers \$48;

6-12 years \$30; under 6 \$6

Schooner *Mary E* Kennebec River Sails (2.5 hours)

Friday and Saturday at 4 pm, June 4-26

Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 4 pm,

July 2-September 29

Members \$45; nonmembers \$56; 12 and under \$45



Boatshop Update



by Kurt Spiridakis,
Director of Watercraft and Traditional Skills

Discovery Boatbuilding Keeps Rolling



The pandemic diminished, but didn't delete, the museum's longest running program. We began Fall 2020 with two classes participating in the Discovery Boatbuilding program. One class, South Bristol, is in its 26th year of boatbuilding at MMM. The small class size allowed everyone to safely learn woodworking and boatbuilding while physically distancing and abiding by all CDC guidelines. Our other participating school, West Bath School, had a much larger class of over 20 students. At the principal's request we

attempted to teach the curriculum at school, and we spent the last couple weeks of August figuring out how to bring the program to the students. Teaching took place outside, next to the soccer field, into December. All work was done using 8-foot plastic tables. This presented a challenge, but ultimately allowed us to get creative. We learned how to run a woodworking class, complete with vices, clamps, and other jigs attached to plastic tables – and without destroying them in the process. Challenges included wind storms that blew away weekly notes and our tent shelters, and one afternoon of sub-20-degree weather that kept the wood glue from setting. It was a very unique experience, and while complicated, showed the museum's and the school's commitment to the program. Luckily in January West Bath School decided to come back to the Boatshop. Given the mild winter, we were able to open the shop's large windows almost daily to allow for increased ventilation.



2021 Raffle Boat

We are excited to announce that the 2021 raffle boat is on display in Sewall Hall and tickets are available! This year we were generously donated an 11-foot, Whitehall-style rowing boat, dubbed the "courting" Whitehall. Originally began as a class project at Wooden Boat School, this boat was given to the museum roughly 80% complete. This small, lightweight, yet beautiful and fast rowboat was designed by longtime Wooden Boat teacher and master boatbuilder Greg Rossell, who modeled it after a design from the late 19th century. The courting Whitehall is a great first rowing boat or, a great addition to any wooden boat armada. It is traditionally built with cedar planks on white oak frames, accented with cherry and mahogany brightwork. We are grateful and honored to be able to complete this boat and offer it as a beautiful raffle boat for 2021.

Watercraft Update

It is well known the museum has a large small craft collection, but how much do you really know about it? Many of these vessels were donated in the '70s and '80s, when the Apprenticeshop and Restorationshop flourished at Maine Maritime Museum. Many of these boats were donated as study pieces for apprentices to learn about construction techniques, and to serve as models for replication. Many were in rough shape, and most have sat, undercover, for the last 30 to 40 years. In addition, the collection includes some larger vessels: sail boats, power boats, interesting designs from prolific builders around the state. The museum recently decided to devote time and resources to what we are calling "rationalizing the collection:" refining it, understanding it, and explaining it to the public. The museum recently voted to undertake fundraising efforts to improve the basement of the Boatshop, known on campus as C-Deck, to serve as an exhibit space for the preservation and restoration of many of these vessels. Our goal is to create an active exhibit, where visitors will observe volunteers using traditional skills to restore various boats in the collection. By consulting with outside experts, we are learning more about the strengths of our collection, and where there may exist possible holes and deficiencies. We are also crafting a preservation plan that will help us discern which vessels are best to add to the collection, as space permits. We have an ambitious plan, but we are confident we can raise the level of our small craft collection to national prominence.

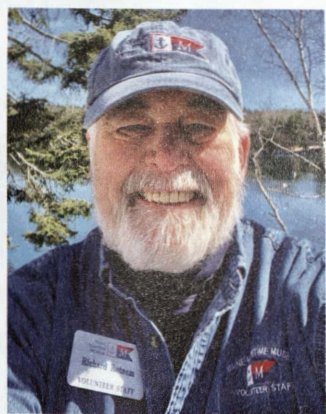
The Bushnell & Crump Leadership Award



by Luke Milardo,
Museum Educator

We are pleased to announce Richard Spear as the recipient of the 2020 Bushnell & Crump Leadership Award. This award honors volunteers whose service to the museum goes above and beyond their written volunteer duties. Recipients must demonstrate exceptional leadership by inspiring and guiding others, collaborating with peers, and motivating fellow volunteers to reach for excellence in support of Maine Maritime Museum's mission and strategic goals.

In his 11 years at the museum, Richard Spear has served as a volunteer in the Nathan R. Lipfert Research Library, a docent at Donnell House and in the Galleries, a tour guide in the Percy & Small Shipyard, and a support to the Discovery Boatbuilding Program. He can also be found demonstrating the art of woodcarving and has beautified MMM's campus with his carvings, including the figurehead and trailboard on the pirate play ship. Hailing from a family of ship captains, Richard's boyhood spent sailing and rowing in Winnegance Creek inspired early interest in maritime history. Furthermore, his 28 years teaching history and Latin in Maine public schools make him a valuable resource for local history.



Because the *The Rhumb Line* did not print last season, we are happy to acknowledge Richard Rotnem as the 2019 award recipient. For the past seven years Richard has worked to help establish the Nathan R. Lipfert Research Library as a world-class resource for casual visitors and dedicated researchers from around the world. His advice for new and returning volunteers: "Learn your chosen niche, teach others, and cross train. Swell with pride as you understand your importance to MMM's mission." And, of course, visit the Library!



Richard not only applies his skills to enhance his service as a volunteer, he charismatically teaches visitors, students, staff, and fellow volunteers to take a nuanced interest in maritime history. It is this ability to inspire others that makes Richard an apt recipient of the Bushnell & Crump Leadership Award.

What do you like best about volunteering at MMM?

I take delight in talking with the wide variety of museum visitors, particularly when they ask questions which challenge me to refocus my knowledge in new ways.

What's your favorite artifact/exhibit/program at the museum?

*The Snow and Lee book on the P&S Shipyard is a model of its kind: wonderfully informative as well as highly readable and well-organized. I keep going back to it, always finding intriguing details and connections I had previously missed. (The book, *A Shipyard in Maine*, is available in the Museum Store and online.)*

Any advice for new volunteers?

The museum's myriad activities and opportunities for service fairly invite anyone to find a personal niche in this band of gifted folks. One need only look about the departments at MMM to discover worthwhile projects and congenial companions!

Nominations for the award are accepted at the end of every season and will be voted on at the Volunteer Council meeting in November.

2021 Volunteer Training Dates

All Volunteer Training

May 6 or 11, 9-11 am
(choose one, via ZOOM)

Percy & Small Guides

May 4, 12:30-4:30 pm
(New Guides)
May 11 or 13, 12:30-2 pm
(Returning Guides, choose one)

Launch Tank

May 3, 1-2 pm

BIW Guides

May 3, 2:30-4:30 pm

Donnell House Docents

May 4, 9-10:30 am (via ZOOM)
May 11, 2-3:30 pm (Walk-Through for New Volunteers)

Gallery Docents

May 5, 11-12 pm (via ZOOM)

Greeters

May 6, 12:30-3:30 pm

Mary E

May 5, 3-4 pm (Informational Training via ZOOM)
May 7, 1-2 pm or 2:30-3:30 pm
(Safety Training, choose one)

Maintenance & Landscaping

Individual meetings throughout the season

Forging a Path Forward: The Value of Museum Education



by Sarah Timm,
Education Manager



AELS students study the Wilson logbook using a backlight.

How do you introduce the tremendous impact of Revolutionary War-era economics in maritime Maine in a way that seems interesting to a group of 15 middle-schoolers? While teaching social studies as part of Maine Maritime Museum’s Alternative Expeditionary Learning Semester (AELS), I found my answer in an 18th century logbook owned by a merchant family and now housed in the museum’s archives.

I asked students to look closely and decipher the scrawling handwriting as I posed an essential question: If you were this merchant family, would you remain loyal to King George III or boycott the Stamp Act? “Boycott!” most students exclaimed before diving into

the assignment. The logbook’s scribbles are fairly generic: navigation problems, merchant records, and a ship log. The true discovery I was hoping they would find lay underneath the 18th century inscriptions. When held to the light, every page is clearly watermarked with the royal insignia of King George III. Upon discovering this intriguing detail and its implications, the weight of the class’s decision between revolution and loyalty became clearer. Britain regulated paper

and war would disrupt supply. If you don’t have paper, you can’t keep a ship’s log. No logbook, no navigation; no navigation, no commerce. The call for revolution was no longer a simple decision. After studying the watermark up close, one student looked up at me and said, “I get it now.” That is when I knew we were on to something.

The success of the AELS program reminds us of the fundamental value of museum education: making history and heritage relevant to a new generation by way of the unique learning opportunities afforded only by museum collections. Had the students experienced the logbook through a transcription or photo, the tactile discovery of the watermark would have been lost. Like museum collections, history is simply a collection of human stories that survived the test of time. How we learn from history is rooted in how we experience it, and the connections we are able to make.

This summer, the museum will debut **Crosscurrents: Youth Learning & Leadership Program** in July 2021. This three-week summer enrichment experience incorporates the same experiential learning approach used in AELS. Educators will use the environmental and cultural history of the Kennebec River as their inspiration for experiences with the museum collection, local ecology on board the museum’s watercraft, and traditional skills in the blacksmith forge and Boatshop. This program is geared for rising 7th and 8th graders. Visit the website for details on **Crosscurrents**; scholarships are available.

As we look to the future, new museum education initiatives are underway to improve accessibility to museum education resources, garner more inclusive perspectives and voices in the stories we tell, and continue to innovate in how we connect others to Maine’s maritime heritage. We look forward to sharing these new horizons with you soon.

Get Your 2021 Boat Raffle Tickets!

Tickets for our 2021 raffle boat are now available! This year’s boat is a beautiful 11-foot “Courting” Whitehall-style pulling boat. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20, and proceeds support the Discovery Boatbuilding Program. The winner will be drawn October 12, 2021. Tickets are available at the museum or at www.MaineMaritimeMuseum.org/shop.



Join or Renew Your Membership online or complete and mail this form.

Please indicate Membership level:

- ☐ Individual \$60
- ☐ Family \$100
- ☐ Sustaining \$150
- ☐ This is a gift membership
- ☐ Patron \$250
- ☐ Shipwright \$500
- ☐ Downeaster \$1,000

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CITY

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ZIP

TEL

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Please charge my membership on ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ VISA ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMEX

CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE

CARDHOLDER’S SIGNATURE

I have also enclosed \$ _____ as a contribution to help support the museum

Please make check payable to Maine Maritime Museum and return to: 243 Washington Street, Bath, ME 04530
Dues and other contributions are tax deductible as provided by law.